



Monthly Report May 2010

The following is a summary of activity of the Prevention Director and the BAY Team members in the month of May 2010.

Community:

The Spring Safety Guide is published! Working with the task forces from Bristol and Warren again, the BAY Team helped produce a media insert which has been published in all three local news papers. It highlights some legislative changes, boating safety initiatives, a focus on marijuana and offers summer safety strategies for families. We were fortunate to partner with the Bristol Elks who supplied prizes for our Art Competition. Please take the time to view this document in your Barrington Times this week.

Nayatt Fair

Adult and youth members of the BAY Team worked a table at the Nayatt School Fair. The message was an age appropriate safety message with a diving for ducks game that quizzed participants on safe ways to have summer fun. Winners received BAY Team Frisbees and a healthy fruit. We are targeting parents with younger children to help and support them with enforcing family safety rules which will hopefully carry on into the future.

Cottage Prevention Meetings

BAY Team members Courtney Canario, Kathy Sullivan and Kristen Westmoreland facilitated two Cottage Prevention meetings in May. School Committee Member, Bob Shea, (Bay Team Liaison) hosted a meeting of 4th and 5th grade parents in his home.



These meetings offer an opportunity for parents of children who are the same age to discuss shared parenting concerns, youth development, and strategies to address common concerns such as bullying, internet safety and teen safety. The Barrington Times offered a positive focus on Cottage Meetings this month.

Boating Safety

What a timely reminder of the need for boating safety when the lives of two young women were cut short by a boat operator who was under the influence of alcohol which lead to several fatal decisions. We are grateful that Ray Souza has annually organized a community boating

safety event, which has grown each year. We tried to promote the message "Boat Safe. Boat Sober."

Marijuana Subcommittee

The BAY Team subcommittee on Marijuana continues to educate community members about the need to prevent youth use of marijuana in the community.

Prescription Drug Use Subcommittee

Members of the Prescription Drug Use committee are working to address the emerging trend of prescription drug misuse. The group is planning an education and awareness campaign. Members are discussing the safe disposal of unused prescription medications and the proper storage and locking of prescribed meds.

The group has purchased combination lock boxes to offer to parents with younger children to get them into the habit of locking prescription meds. These will be initially distributed at the school fairs. Data shows that 70% of teens who have abused prescription drugs have taken them from friends or family. This lock box will help reduce access to these drugs for teens.

A 19 year old female crashed her vehicle while impaired through prescription drugs that past week in Barrington. Details are still emerging from that nearly tragic

Monthly Parenting Tips

Parenting tips are produced electronically for all of the school newsletters. They are also published with the support of Verizon and included in the Barrington Times every month.

State Policy – New Website and Billboard Campaign

First Lady Suzanne Carcieri joined with Governor Donald Carcieri, Attorney General Patrick Lynch, Family Court Chief Judge Jeremiah S. Jeremiah, Jr., substance abuse prevention task force coordinators, Chief John LaCross, and other prevention advocates to introduce a new state website offering substance abuse prevention resources and a new billboard promoting an underage drinking prevention message.



The website and billboard campaign was timed to start just before prom season, graduation season, and the summer vacation months when many youth experiment with alcohol for the first time.

Law Enforcement:

Chief LaCross, Kathy Sullivan and Dr. Kristen Westmoreland attended the annual Law Enforcement conference on underage drinking prevention organized by MADD. This year a panel of School Resource officers and youth discussed the challenges of prevention in the age of social networking. The audience also heard from a PC student who is a DUI offender.

Drug Free Community Grant

Attached you will find a presentation of data produced by the BAY Team's evaluation team, Datacorp. This report focuses on the functioning of the coalition and is based upon BAY Team members' self reporting after every meeting and in an annual online survey. Their results will be presented to the BAY Team at our spring retreat and will help shape our efforts to build and sustain the capacity of the coalition in the coming years.